

ABSTRACT

A drive for a cooling fan at motor vehicles including a main cooling circuit and at least one secondary cooling circuit using a fluid friction clutch including a control element for the drive of the cooling fan is described.

In case of a plurality of cooling circuits, such fluid friction clutches do not react as desired by actuating the cooling fan.

To prevent this disadvantage, a drive for a cooling fan being drivable by a fluid friction clutch is to be provided, in which the cooling fan starts operation as soon as there is a requirement in at least one of the cooling circuits.

For this reason, temperature sensors (40, 41, 51) are allocated to selected secondary cooling circuits (5, 6) and a further control element (31) is allocated to the working chamber (19) to bypass the control element (21), the control element (31) freeing a further opening (30) being located in the separating wall (18) when predetermined temperatures and temperature ranges, respectively, are attained in at least one of the selected secondary cooling circuits (5, 6), the opening (30) not being influenced by the control element (21).

Fig. 1 is to be published with the abstract.